

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Disease among Chinese Communist Troops, Sinkiang	DATE DISTR.	25X1A 20 March 1953
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1. According to statistics compiled by the Sinkiang Military District Command, in mid-October 1952 about 29,000 troops of the Chinese Communist 1 and 22 Army Groups¹, 1 Field Army, had contracted diseases prevalent in Sinkiang, including malaria, venereal diseases, and ringworm. The rate of incidence increased after August 1952 because of the lack of proper medical treatment, and forces in southern Sinkiang were suffering more than those in other areas.
2. When the Health Department of the Central Supply and Service Command of the Revolutionary Military Council received these statistics, doctors and medicine were sent to the area by the Department and by the Chinese Communist Ministry of Health. The health departments of the Supply and Service Command, Northwest Military Area, and of the Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee were to use these resources to treat affected troops and to organize local disease prevention and medical service units in the Sinkiang Military District.²

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25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] from another source, in the spring of 1952 the 22 Army Group in Sinkiang was no longer a combat force but a labor force engaged in collective farming. The 22 Army Group is not accepted as a field force unit in current compilations of Chinese Communist order-of-battle information.

25X1A 2. [REDACTED] Comment. The North China News Agency reported on 25 January 1953 that a Chinese Communist medical team had just returned to Tihua after an eight-month tour of Sinkiang. According to the broadcast, this team gave inoculations and physical examinations to the local populace, aided in the establishment of local health organizations and the improvement of health facilities, and trained health workers.

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